

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 095087

70

ORIGIN AF-06

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DRAFTED BY AF/S:WFEATON:DRP

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EB/EWT:SSGOODMAN

COMMERCE:MLICHT (INFO)

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P R 242143Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 095087

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, EAIR, SF, US

SUBJECT: PROPOSED EXPORT OF SIX L-100 AIRCRAFT TO SAFAIR

REF: A. PRETORIA 1377, B. PRETORIA 824, C. STATE 25473

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES FURTHER INFORMATION ON SAFAIR'S PROJECTED CARGO TRAFFIC 1975-1980 CONTAINED REFTEL A. WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHAT PERCENTAGE OF SAFAIR CARGO PROJECTIONS ARE REPRESENTED BY OPERATIONS OF TWO SAFAIR AIRCRAFT UNDER DRY LEASE TO AIA. WE ARE CONCERNED BY PROJECTED FOUR-FOLD RISE IN LOGAIR HAULS DURING FY 75/76 AS COMPARED TO PREVIOUS YEAR AND PARTICULARLY BY FACT THAT SAFAIR HAS NEW CONTRACT WITH SAG TO HAUL PARTIALLY ASSEMBLED MIRAGE AIRCRAFT FROM FRANCE TO SOUTH AFRICA. WE BELIEVE THAT THE EXISTENCE OF SUCH A CONTRACT IS BOUND SOONER OR LATER TO BECOME PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE AND SUBJECT
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PAGE 02 STATE 095087

USG TO ACCUSATIONS BY ANTI-APARTHEID GROUPS AND AFRICAN

NATIONS OF FACILITATING INDIRECTLY SOUTH AFRICAN EFFORTS
TO CIRCUMVENT THE ARMS EMBARGO.

2. EMBASSY SHOULD THUS EXPLAIN OUR CONCERN TO SAFAIR AND

POINT OUT THAT EXISTENCE OF NEW CONTRACT IS A FACTOR THAT
WILL HAVE TO BE WEIGHED IN REACHING A DECISION ON PENDING
EXPORT LICENSE APPLICATION FOR THE SIX L-100'S.

3. REQUEST EMBASSY REPORT SAFAIR REACTION SOONEST. KISSINGER

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NNN

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